

Atherosclerotic plaque stability : identification and validation of key regulators

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Atherosclerotic plaque stability: identification and validation of key regulators

Kitty Schapira

Maastricht, 6 september, 2007

1. The life of a lesion and the circumstances that ultimately lead to acute clinical events are unknown simply because of the inability to recognize lesions that become clinically relevant (*dit proefschrift*).
2. Atherogenesis appears to occur inevitably regardless of the treatment applied, therefore the aim of potential therapies should be to inhibit the progression of atherosclerosis and/or stabilize lesions (*dit proefschrift*).
3. Currently, there is no standard mouse model of vulnerable plaque (*dit proefschrift*).
4. Although intervention against diverse targets – whether they are cytokines, adhesion molecules or neovascularization – often affects the macrophage content in atherosclerotic plaques, the most promising target is the chemokine MCP-1 (*dit proefschrift*).
5. In writing a scientific article it's not only important to get the language right, you have to know how to package the information.
6. Given that a stressful lifestyle is one of the risk factors for atherosclerosis, it's ironic that the stressed out lifestyle of PhD students researching atherosclerosis may actually contribute to atherosclerosis progression within themselves.
7. Contrary to public perception, many scientists who experiment on animals are among the biggest animal lovers.
8. Producing a PhD thesis is not unlike giving birth.
9. When speaking in Dutch, it's important to pronounce the word "zaken" appropriately when asking for directions to the human resources department (Personele Zaken).